

## The Evening Times and Star

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## THE WAR NEWS

The news from the east of war continues to be unsatisfactory, not because it brings news of defeat for the powers in whom Canadians are chiefly interested, but because it is meagre and conflicting in its character, and more or less unreliable. It is satisfactory, however, to the extent that there is no evidence as yet that the Germans have gained any substantial success. On the contrary, so far as the record goes, they have been getting the worst of it in their contact with the British fleet and the Belgian and French land forces. They are reported to have gained some success in the Baltic.

The world still waits with the utmost anxiety for news from the North Sea. A great deal depends upon the result of the great naval battle in those waters. It is most important that the German fleet be destroyed or bottled up. Were that accomplished, the sea routes would be open and the blow to the world's trade would be much less serious. Very little news comes out of Austria, but war is said to have been declared by that country against Russia. In the preliminary engagement on the Serbian frontier the Austrians appear to have been getting the worst of it. Italy remains neutral, and will probably not be at all frightened by the threat of Germany to regard her as an enemy if she does not take up arms in the cause of Germany and Austria. In the eastern seas the Japanese fleet is ready for action if it should be necessary to take up the gage of battle in Britain's cause, but apart from rumors of some fighting between British and German and Russian and German vessels very little of interest appears to be transpiring in that quarter of the world.

The great feature of the actual fighting thus far has been the magnificent defence of Liege by the Belgians, who have steadily beaten back, with heavy loss, the determined and repeated attacks of a large German army. If it be true as stated in one of last night's cables that bodies of picked French troops, cavalry, infantry and engineers, are ready to effect a junction with the Belgian forces whenever called upon, there is little prospect of German success in carrying out an early invasion of French territory by the Belgian route.

Preparation for a great war continues in England, and the government has warned the country that the news received will not all be good news, and that a prolonged struggle may be necessary. A war budget of half a billion dollars went through the House of Commons yesterday without a dissenting voice, and an addition of 100,000 men to the regular army is to be made at once while the strength of the navy is to be increased by 67,000 additional officers and men. A gratifying illustration of the manner in which all Englishmen are burying their political differences was witnessed yesterday when Lord Charles Bessborough and Mr. Winston Churchill clasped hands and the admiral said: "Well done!" The magnitude of the task he has undertaken has at last dawned upon the Emperor of Germany, and he has issued a call to all Germans capable of carrying arms "to fight for the fatherland."

The news of the day which is of special interest to Canadians is that of the acceptance of Canada's offer to send a contingent of 30,000 men to Europe, and the announcement that this force will be mobilized at Quebec as rapidly as possible. The report that General Lessard might be in command is now denied, as he is on sick leave. Of course the quick dispatch of this Canadian force depends to some extent upon the result of the naval conflict in the North Sea, and news from that quarter is therefore awaited with the utmost anxiety.

## MR. BAXTER'S BOOMERANG

Mr. J. B. M. Baxter was very ill-advised when he followed up his statement before the Royal Commission yesterday concerning his professional relations with Mr. A. R. Gould of the St. John Valley Railway with an attempt to connect Mr. Carvell and Mr. E. S. Carter with a deal to hush up the Dugal charges for a monetary consideration. The denial of Mr. Carvell was prompt, and his denial as promptly supported by Mr. George W. Fowler, M. P., who would have known if any such bargain between the parties had been considered. Mr. Carter's denial this morning was no less convincing. On the face of it the story is absurd. The evidence brought out before the Royal Commission shows that Mr. Carvell and Mr. Carter were perfectly sure of their ground, and that even as a matter of party politics, apart altogether from a sense of duty to the province, a complete exposure was the thing most greatly to be desired. The Standard appears to think that since Mr. Baxter's statement was made on oath and Mr. Carvell's denial was not, that therefore greater weight should be attached to the statement of Mr. Baxter. Mr. Carvell will, of course, take occasion to state on oath if necessary what he told the Royal Commission yesterday, and Mr. George W. Fowler will be ready to do the same. Moreover, Mr.

Baxter only swore to something he had heard, and not something of which he had personal knowledge, and he refused absolutely, even at the request of the Royal Commission, to tell where the story originated. It was perfectly proper for Mr. Baxter to appear before the Royal Commission and make any statement he desired to make regarding his own relations with Mr. Gould, since that had been the subject of inquiry and discussion. In his own interest and in the interest of his party he should have been content with that statement, and left the public to judge whether as a member of the legislature which he afterward returned, whether he should have kept himself entirely clear from any such transactions. By making the charges against Mr. Carvell, which were so promptly and effectively refuted, he has left himself in a worse position than before.

## LOYAL NEWFOUNDLAND.

Canadians have read with intense satisfaction of the splendid British spirit manifested in this crisis by the people of Newfoundland. For many years the preliminary engagement on the Serbian frontier the Austrians appear to have been getting the worst of it. Italy remains neutral, and will probably not be at all frightened by the threat of Germany to regard her as an enemy if she does not take up arms in the cause of Germany and Austria. In the eastern seas the Japanese fleet is ready for action if it should be necessary to take up the gage of battle in Britain's cause, but apart from rumors of some fighting between British and German and Russian and German vessels very little of interest appears to be transpiring in that quarter of the world.

Trains may now be run from Moncton to Lewis, over the National Transcontinental. A train ferry, as well as this section of the line, will be handling business long before any provision has been made for terminals at St. John.

Probably within the next fortnight St. John will be called upon to say good-bye to the first contingent for foreign service. Events must move swiftly. Even a well drilled militia requires to be seasoned somewhat before it engages in active warfare.

An Ottawa paper says that most of P. R. Booth's lumbermen working in the woods are being laid off, because of the war situation and the uncertainty on the financial horizon. Until the safety of the sea route is assured the trans-Atlantic lumber trade must necessarily suffer.

Universal sympathy goes out to President Wilson of the United States in his great bereavement. Such a terrible blow under ordinary circumstances would have been terrible, but at this particular time, when the conditions arising out of the great war place a very heavy strain upon the president, the loss of his life partner is infinitely more hard to bear. Mrs. Wilson was a woman of the highest qualities, and the Wilson home was a model of happiness. Because she loved her home and was so devoted to the welfare and the happiness of those about her, the grief at her loss weighs more heavily upon the members of her family and the intimate circle in which they move.

It is a little difficult for Liberals to overlook the insulting remarks made by some Conservatives at a time when the public interest calls for a cessation of political controversy in Canada. Even the Hon. Robert Rogers could not refrain from saying in Ottawa this week that Sir Wilfrid Laurier had committed a "great crime in having his majority in the senate defeat our naval bill." This is in the first place a falsehood in relation to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and in the second place a statement that Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who is described by the Rt. Hon. Winston Churchill as "that great Imperial statesman," does not need a certificate of character from the Hon. Robert Rogers, H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught summoned Sir Wilfrid Laurier to Rideau Hall on Wednesday and held a long conference. That is perhaps the best answer for men of the Rogers stamp.

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The Car's Story  
The Car tells this story of his visit to Paris in 1896.  
He wanted to go to the Luxembourg if possible, incognito, so a closed limousine was provided, and the Car, accompanied by one attendant, stopped in and drove off without an escort. Arrived at the Luxembourg, the attendant got out of the carriage to make sure that a certain official was there to receive the imperial visitor.

The Car, left alone in the carriage, looked out of the open window at a ragged boy playing on the curb. Their eyes met and the youngster stared hard. He had never seen the Car, but he had seen his photograph, and the likeness to this foreign-looking man in the carriage was certainly striking.

"Supposing it is Nicholas," he muttered, and he resolved to make sure at once. Stepping boldly up to the carriage he shouted in at the window: "How's the Empress?"

Picture his stupefaction—for he really thought he was only having a good joke—when the unknown foreigner replied with a smile:

"Thank you, the Empress is well and we are both delighted with our visit to your beautiful city."

"Then," says the Car in telling the story, "my true-born Parisian friend immediately lost his tongue, and stared at me in astonishment. But after a few seconds' hesitation, he raised his cap with a dignified flourish, and stalked gravely away, his nose very much in the air."—Pearson's Weekly.

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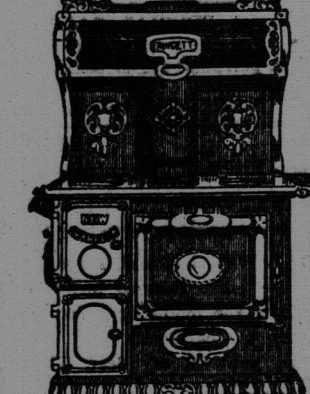
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